B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A system for trading commodities and the like comprising:

a computer;

a communications link between the computer and the Internet;

a database, accessible by the computer, containing a plurality of user files wherein each of the plurality of user files corresponds to a specified user of the system and further containing exchange permissions corresponding to exchanges to which the specified user may access;

a database, accessible by the computer, containing a plurality of indications wherein each of the plurality of indications contains information corresponding to open bids or offers for commodities and the indications are organized according to the commodities to which they correspond;

at [a] least one computerized exchange for transacting specified commodities executing on the computer accessible by selected users having proper exchange permissions for each exchange; and

a presentation of indications transmitted from the computer to a user of the system over the communications link, software executing on the computer for querying the user database to retrieve exchange permissions from a user file corresponding to the user, retrieving indications from the indication database corresponding to the predetermined commodities within the exchanges to which the user has been determined to have access, generating a presentation of the retrieved indications, and transmitting the presentation to the user over the communications link.

44 (Newly Added). A system for trading commodities and the like comprising:

a computer;

a communications link between the computer and the Internet;

a database, accessible by the computer, containing a plurality of user files wherein each of the plurality of user files corresponds to a specified user of the system and further containing exchange permissions corresponding to exchanges to which the specified user may access;

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at least one computerized exchange for transacting specified commodities executing on the computer accessible by selected users having proper exchange permissions for each exchange;

a database, accessible by the computer, containing a plurality of indications wherein each of the plurality of indications contains information corresponding to open bids or offers for commodities and the indications are organized according to the commodities to which they correspond; and

software executing on the computer for querying the user database to retrieve exchange permissions from a user file corresponding to the user; retrieving indications from the indication database corresponding to predetermined commodities within the exchanges to which the user has been determined to have access, generating a presentation of the retrieved indications, transmitting the presentation to the user over the communications link, and displaying the presentation of the retrieved indications corresponding to the commodities within the exchanges to which the user has been determined to have access.

45 (Newly Added). The system of claim 44 wherein the specified commodities associated with an exchange are viewed exclusively by users having exchange permissions corresponding to the exchange.

46 (Newly Added). The system of claim 45 further comprising commodity-sharing privileges granted between at least two exchanges permitting at least one of the exchanges access to at least one commodity associated with the exchanges.

47 (Newly Added). The system of claim 44 wherein each of the plurality of user files further contains a plurality of transaction parameters corresponding to one or more indications associated with the user file, the transaction parameters governing the presentation and acceptance of indications associated therewith and the system further comprising software executing on the computer for querying user files in the user database corresponding to each of the retrieved indications to determine transaction parameters associated with each of the retrieved indications, and generating the presentation of the retrieved indications in accordance with the determined transaction parameters.

48 (Newly Added). The system of claim 47 wherein the transaction parameters enable a submitter of an indication to remain anonymous to specific users of the system that have been predetermined by the submitter.

49 (Newly Added). The system of claim 44 wherein the transaction parameters enable a submitter of an indication to reveal contact information to specific users of the system that have been predetermined by the submitter.

50 (Newly Added). A system for trading commodities and the like comprising:

a computer;

a communications link between the computer and the Internet;

a database, accessible by the computer, containing a plurality of user files wherein each of the plurality of user files corresponds to a specified user of the system and further containing exchange permissions corresponding to exchanges to which the specified user may access;

at least one computerized exchange for transacting specified commodities accessible by selected users having proper exchange permissions for each exchange; and

a display that permits users to post and view bids and offers and negotiate and consummate transactions on common commodities from such exchanges;

whereby sharing of common commodities from such exchanges pools and thereby improves liquidity.

51 (Newly Added). The system of claim 50 wherein the display comprises designated web sites for each exchange.

52 (Newly Added). The system of claim 50 further including a database, accessible by the computer, containing a plurality of indications wherein each of the plurality of indications contains information corresponding to open bids or offers for commodities and the indications are organized according to the commodities to which they correspond.

53 (Newly Added). The system of claim 52 further including software executing on the computer for querying the user database to retrieve exchange permissions from a user file corresponding to the user; retrieving indications from the indication database corresponding to predetermined commodities within the exchanges to

which the user has been determined to have access, generating a presentation of the retrieved indications, transmitting the presentation to the user over the communications link, and displaying the presentation of the retrieved indications corresponding to the commodities within the exchanges to which the user has been determined to have access.

54 (Newly Added). The system of claim 50 wherein the specified commodities associated with an exchange are viewed exclusively by users having exchange permissions corresponding to the exchange.

55 (Newly Added). The system of claim 50 wherein the transaction parameters enable a submitter of an indication to reveal contact information to specific users of the system that have been predetermined by the submitter.